

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated March 15, 2006. Claims 32 to 40 are pending in the application, of which Claims 32, 36 and 37 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 32, 36 and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,481,353 (Hicks). Claims 33 to 35 and 38 to 40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Hicks in view of U.S. Published Appln. No. 2002/0066989 (Simpson) and "Running Microsoft PowerPoint 4 for Windows" (Sagman). Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

The present invention concerns printing both presentation and distribution materials by a printer. The invention features a single print job of executing presentation printing, such as on a transparent sheet for presentation, and printing on a distribution copy by one-time print setting.

Turning to specific claim language, amended independent Claim 32 is directed to a print control method which has a presentation mode to print a presentation material and a distribution material. The method includes a job issue step of issuing a single print job according to print setting set by a user; a judgment step of judging whether or not the print setting set by the user corresponds to the presentation mode; a step of, in a case where it is judged in the judgment step that the print setting does not correspond to the presentation mode, executing an ordinary print process; and a step of, in a case where it is judged in the judgment step that the print setting corresponds to the presentation mode, adding a command particular to the presentation mode to the single job issued in the job issue step, and executing a presentation-mode print process within the single job. The

command particular to the presentation mode is a command to designate the presentation mode, a command to designate the number of copies of the distribution material, and a color setting command of the distribution material.

Therefore, a print control apparatus in accordance with Claim 32 includes the feature that, in a presentation mode, commands (i.e., a command of designating the presentation mode, a command of designating the number of distribution materials, and a command for color setting of the distribution materials) which are specific in the presentation mode are added to the single job issued in a print job issuing step.

Moreover, in such a print control apparatus, as the print job has a single job structure, it is possible to prevent an improper operation wherein a print job of another user interrupts the print job during the printing on the transparent sheet for presentation and the printing on the distribution copy by erroneously inserting another print job between the two separate print jobs.

In contrast, Hicks discloses that a GUI is provided in a printer, and detailed print setting for transparencies, dividers, master set and handout set(s) for presentation can be executed from the GUI (Fig. 3). More specifically, Fig. 3 and the corresponding explanation thereof disclose that the setting of full color output and black-and-white output can be executed for each of the transparencies, the dividers, the master set and the handout set(s). However, Hicks fails to disclose or suggest at least the feature of a single print job according to a print setting set by a user wherein a command particular to the presentation mode is added to the single print job, and executing a presentation-mode print process within the single print job wherein the command particular to the presentation mode is a command to designate the presentation mode, a command to designate the number of

copies of the distribution material, and a color setting command of the distribution material.

Furthermore, Simpson discloses that, when multiple collated copies are executed, a print document is stored in a memory. In addition, Sagman discloses that three slides are laid out and printed on a handout page. However, neither Simpson nor Sagman supply that which is missing from Hicks. Therefore, neither Hicks, Simpson nor Sagman, neither alone nor in combination, disclose or suggest the feature of a single print job according to a print setting set by a user wherein a command particular to the presentation mode is added to the single job, and executing a presentation-mode print process within the single job wherein the command particular to the presentation mode is a command to designate the presentation mode, a command to designate the number of copies of the distribution material, and a color setting command of the distribution material, as featured in Claim 32.

In light of the deficiencies of Hicks, Simpson and Sagman as discussed above, Applicant submits that amended independent Claim 32 is now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

Amended independent Claims 36 and 37 are directed to a computer-readable medium and a printer control apparatus, respectively, substantially in accordance with the method of Claim 32. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claims 36 and 37 are also in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed allowable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of

the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the allowability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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